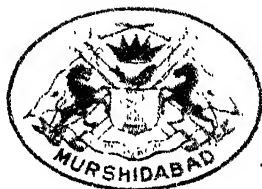


A MIND'S REPRODUCTION



BY

SIR WASIF ALI MEERZA,

NAWAB BAHADUR OF MURSHIDABAD,

AMIR-UL-OMRA,

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DEDICATED TO THE SACRED
MEMORY OF MY LATE
REVERED FATHER.

Foreword.

IT is a cultured mind which is mirrored in the following pages : for, the Author, His Highness Amir-ul-Omra Sir Wasif Ali Meerza, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, belongs not only to the aristocracy of birth but also to the aristocracy of mind. Experience of the world, study and reflection have led him to the conclusion that "Intelligence is the most powerful force of creation," which reminds one of Sir William Hamilton's dictum : "In the universe there is nothing greater than man, and in man there is nothing greater than mind."

The Author's prefatory words and many of the reflections contained in the book seem to be tinged with sadness. But at the same time they

breathe a spirit of pious resignation. Congenial to such a soul is the concluding maxim—

“ If you do not wish to be affected by the ways of the world, if you do not care to be governed by joy or sorrow, by pain or comfort, by poverty or riches, by satisfaction or discontent, by love or hate, renounce the world.”

But such words must not lead one to conclude that the writer has spent his days in unrelieved gloom. There are indications in his book that he “ must have the satisfaction, though perplexed for the time being, of knowing that he will one day, through his forbearance and reliance on God, overcome completely all obstacles and impediments of adverse circumstances.” It is faith like this which has enabled him to perceive that “ Joy reigns unharmed in sorrow’s

surroundings, as the rose flourishes in its thorny habitation," and that "Through sorrow's night of darkest hue comes the light of joy's awakening morn."

Many of the Author's reflections, though presented in an English garb, have a distinctive Persian flavour.

Nor are words of practical wisdom and advice wanting. I can quote but a few :—

"If you would God's help invite,
Keep always to the right."

"To strive the past to revive again,
Is to bring back the dead to life again."

"When duty calls
Care not what befalls."

"Might may often supersede right,
Long it cannot remain upright."

Pretension is contemptible."

' If you cannot satisfy yourself,
You cannot satisfy others."

' If you would be happy,
Render useful service."

" A good deed done leaves behind an im-
perishable impression which changing
time cannot obliterate."

' Spurn not the advice of one, though
humbler than yourself."

" Don't keep a beaten serpent alive."

" Give up undue expectation ;
Flowers bloom not out of season."

" After repeated failures, work with
redoubled energy."

" Be not deceived by appearance, as
reality is sometimes represented
cunningly by imitation."

RAMANANDA CHATTERJEE.

September 9th, 1934.

A Mind's Reproduction.

DURING our existence in this world we have all got to prepare ourselves to learn a lesson from the onward march of coming events and to face sorrows after sorrows during the progressive stages of our life, bearing in mind, that he who endures with patience and fortitude will one day realise to his satisfaction that they shall be ultimately superseded by the coming of infinite joy and happiness which seek to dispel the gloom of the darkest moments affliction always brings. Weak and worn out under the influence of an accursed malady brought by the pangs of abandoned happiness which later on gave rise to

symptoms of unforeseen complications became excruciating, having caused unavoidable tremendous mental strain and acute and unspeakable prolonged sufferings. Being slowly consumed by the heat of that smouldring fire anguish had kindled within my throbbing breast, I have waited long enough in suspense for a glimpse of the coming sunshine of better days hidden shrouded in the folds of the screen of voluminous mist. I thank God, that through His mercy my powers of determination, which He has given me, have enabled me undaunted to resist the harsh influences of distressing moments. With a stout heart pulsating with feverish excitement I stood in the midst of a sweeping

hurricane of the stormy days of misfortune that was furiously raging with that unabated intensity which would have made the very ground slip away from under my feet had not the solid foundation of my sacred belief in coming deliverance firmly supported me. Invisible powerful forces are ever working their machinations on mankind, but the indomitable courage and persistent toleration shown by one whose conscientiousness is undisputed, must have the satisfaction, though perplexed for the time being, of knowing that he will one day through his forbearance and reliance in God overcome completely all obstacles and impediments of adverse circumstances.

Such is my conviction and such as I think must soon guide my footsteps to the height of success which will, I trust, be soon reached without hinderance and interference. How often have I been face to face with a critical moment which threatened disaster, how many a day and night have I waited with patience well-nigh exhausted for the realisation of a long-fostered hope, how with straining nerves have I borne with calm resignation the cruel thrust dealt by vicissitudes of fortune, my memory dreads and shivers to reveal what my thoughts now most sorely feel. But when the eagerly sought for light from Heaven brings into sight the star of my destiny, causing it to shine with

lustrous brilliancy, all ceaseless anxieties and all agonising heart-rending pains arising from the restless state of my mind must ultimately give way to the glory of its success brought through dreary years of bitter disappointment. How clearly does it now appear to be fast approaching in my direction, dispersing at every step those dark and demoralising clouds which had gathered on the horizon to spread on earth freely and unchecked their melancholy shadows of mortifying despair and disaster. The memory of a forlorn hope thus revived is like a soothing draught offered to the quivering lips of one whose grief-stricken soul has with faltered steps traversed the prickly path of many

a severe trial. Slowly and steadily have I struggled with might and main to prevent my being submerged in the tide of ill omen until providential aid came to my rescue and in its arms of heavenly protection, fearless of evil forebodings, bore me safely to a destination, where through the rustling leaves the wandering breeze softly makes its way to kiss the falling dew-drops from the petals, where signs of danger slowly disappear like thorns strewn on the bank melting away under the charm of the sweet fragrance of richly-scented flowers that live and thrive preserved by heavenly care .

1

MATERIAL world knows not the worth of life's complete happiness.

2

THOUGH not in sight, the light of revelation is steadily progressing.

3

RELIANCE in God relieves the mind of excessive sufferings.

4

SOUL'S refreshing consolation comes with the message of intuition.

5

WORK of construction is followed by destruction until it reappears in its eternal abode, when it remains indestructible.

6

CONTENTMENT arising from acts of philanthropy is the reproduction of the realisation of that happiness which awaits us in the life hereafter.

To be conquered by nature should create determination to strive to conquer nature.

8

VIBRATION produced by the songs of Heaven's greetings heralds the coming of divine assistance.

9

UTMOST tolerance in distressing circumstances is complete resignation shown to the will of God.

10

TOWARDS love's discovery attraction
becomes irresistible when glance meets
glance.

11

BE never dismayed, convince yourself
conscience leads the way to salvation.

12

A GRIEF-STRICKEN heart · attracted
towards divine aid dispels the gloom
of melancholiness.

13

WITH silent steps to the rescue of
struggling soul prayed for, freedom at
last arrives.

14

FATE keeps to the rule of regulated
time.

15

DURING the process of concentrated meditation comes heavenly inspiration.

16

THE light of learning keeps always burning.

17

QUENCH your thirst at the spring of salvation.

18

ALL cares are buried in peaceful rest.

19

A CALL coming from Heaven is to soul elevation given.

20

SOUL survives the severest trial under shelter of God's mercifulness.

21

Do not bewildered stand,
Heaven's protection is at hand,

22

IN the race of life we find
None is ever left behind.

23

GOD's help permits not short-sighted-
ness,
Light may return to blindness.

24

DEPTH of meditation
Is like a fathomless ocean.

25

THROUGH divine communion
Comes eternal reunion.

26

To bring what time cannot dare
It is neither here nor there.

27

THE higher you go
The more you know.

28

THOUGH death to life may apply,
Soul's advice is never say die.

29

IF you would God's help invite
Keep always to the right.

30

NOTHING can restrain its liberty
When soul forsakes captivity.

31

To reach the height of perfection
Is the soul's greatest ambition.

32

If in pursuance of truth danger you
do not dread,
Though long may seem the journey,
fearlessly go ahead.

33

HOWEVER may seem the soul worn
out with grief,
EVER trust to God, have faith in
His belief.

34

A DYING spark not infrequently sets
up a conflagration.

35

A CANDLE's last flicker may give clue to a hidden secret as the fleeting light of thought's concentration is apt to illuminate an expected discovery.

36

LIFE's stormy days disperse before the coming of fate's glad tidings as the dark clouds gathered on the horizon pierced through by the rays of approaching sunshine.

37

To expect to procure honey from a deserted bee-hive is as useless as it is to try to fetch water from a dried-up well.

38

WHEN the moon shines all stars lose
their brilliancy.

39

BEWARE of mockery, it comes in
various ways as temptation first
appeared in the shape of forbidden
fruit in the garden of Eden.

40

A LONG-CHERISHED wish leaps to its
feet to welcome the dawn of realisation.

41

To participate in indecent association
drowns one's respectability in the
stream of pollution.

42

WORDS kindly spoken to a pining heart are like falling dewdrops on flowers drooping.

43

THROUGH sorrow's night of darkest hue comes the light of joy's awakening morn.

44

WHAT seems out of proportion is that which comes within the angle of vision not correctly focussed.

45

DEPARTING shadows foretell the setting sun.

46

A SHIP homeward bound may easily be stranded when home is in sight.

47

A PATHETIC appeal moves the heart
of steel.

48

To flowers perfume given is a gift of
Heaven's tender care.

49

IF you would its behest fulfil,
resign yourself to the flame of love
increasing.

50

DARKNESS comes to mourn with the
light of parting day.

51

A BREAK in the cloud means a lull
in the storm.

52

WHEN oil is thrown on fire the mischief is done.

53

IF you stir up dust you may get it full in your eyes.

54

A SLIP may break a pitcherful of water.

55

A SMOOTH surface may not permit of plain sailing.

56

WHEN you are tossed on the sea it is fate's passing decree.

57

THE work of misfortune is but a passing phase of life.

58

WHEN a flower is plucked it withers away from pain in its bosom.

59

SEED of patience sown in the soil of hope sprouts steadily into maturity.

60

UNJUSTIFIABLE assumption is the outcome of a self-created belief supported on the fragile wings of a fast disappearing illusion.

61

A FIERY glance from a down-trodden enemy is like a glare of a smouldring fire subdued.

62

As the essence of flowers supplies nourishment to the butterfly, so the hungry is benefited by the milk of human kindness.

63

As a glowing fire is ultimately reduced to ashes, so the flaring flame of villainy dies out after its excesses.

64

NOTHING thrives disconnected from its natural surroundings. As a drop of the ocean when taken away from the seat of its origin, being unable to retain its identity, succumbs to separation, or as a spark thrown out apart from a fire, being unable to thrive in the midst of its strange environment, ceases to exist.

65

As fortune's pouring sunshine in its ecstasy floats steadily along the ocean of hope's fulfilment, so fate's greeting keeps abreast with the silent steps of approaching prosperity.

66

A LESSON learnt from the taste of bitter fruit of experience corrects the work of negligence.

67

THE vanishing hue of flowers falling is like the fading colours of a rainbow disappearing.

68

To be drowned in the worship of God results from divine intoxication.

69

THE sea is the earth's accumulated
surging perspiration.

70

LIFE is a ceaseless strife.

71

A SIGH is a heart's cry.

72

WHAT'S implied by insignificance
Compares with this world's resemblance.

73

SWEET music's dying strain
Leaves behind incurable pain.

74

To strive the past to revive again
Is to bring back the dead to life again.

75

IF two opposite forces could meet
each other

The angel and the devil would walk
together.

76

EVEN a sound of ripple invite,
It awakens the silence of the night.

77

A DEWDROP here and there,
To a fading flower brings cheer.

78

A DART fired in the dark
May easily miss its mark.

79

Do not always think to presume
Where there's flower there must be
perfume.

80

LIKE a cobweb's string
Life is a subtile thing.

81

IN the dead of night
Fortune may reflect light.

82

BEFORE the current reaches your side,
It is better to stem the tide.

83

WHAT feelings of grief provide
Is a thorn in pleasure's side.

84

DEWDROP falling from a petal
To the last shows up its mettle.

85

It is better to be in a gale
Than an insult to inhale.

86

A DISPLAY of forced smile
Is a snare to beguile.

87

FOR slight wrong do not fret,
Try to forgive, forget.

88

HE must be the real spy
Who gives you the go-by.

89

WHEN in the grip
Don't let it slip.

90

TRUST to God, try your best
To prove true to the test.

91

BEFORE paying a price
Think it over twice.

92

IF you want to please
First your anger appease.

93

BETTER to surrender
Than to plunder.

94

THINK not to grind
What you cannot find.

95

Do not good thoughts with evil
combine,

What is impure cannot be divine.

96

WHEN hard pressed,
Don't be distressed.

97

A SNUB to a tear
Incites offence to appear.

98

WHAT you do not prize
Do not always despise.

99

WHEN late,
Knock at the gate.

100

WHEN drifting towards ruination,
Think in time of reformation.

101

BEFORE success endeavour crowns
There are many ups and downs.

102

Do not in disgust right away fling,
A straw may become a useful thing.

103

WHEN duty calls
Care not what befalls.

104

MIGHT may often supersede right,
Long it cannot remain upright.

105

A VOICE may be heard
But it should not hurt.

106

WHEN the ground is bent
Do not pitch a tent.

107

STOP ! take heed
When prudence forbids speed.

108

DON'T take up a load
You can hardly hold.

109

WHEN a discord is strung,
Better to hold your tongue.

110

PUFFED-UP pride
Throw aside.

111

To straightway tell a lie
Is better than a crooked reply.

112

A HANDFUL of rice
May often suffice.

113

To discard a vice
Is a fitting advice.

114

If you want laurels to win,
Stick to truth through thick and thin.

115

A WRONGFUL gain
Doesn't long remain.

116

To build out of season
Means forgetful of precaution.

117

WHEN there's cause for action,
Don't turn to distraction.

118

IF calculation is precise
It cannot be otherwise.

119

Do not proceed to unearth trouble,
Uneasiness will be more than double.

120

A WRONG is a wrongful act to commit,
Right directs a wrong to omit.

121

A ROPE outstretched must on firmness
depend,
You cannot untie its knot at either
end.

122

If you would taste its flavour and
type,
Do not pluck a fruit before it's ripe.

123

If a warning you slight,
Remember trouble is in sight.

124

WHEN the track is rough,
Proceed cautiously enough.

125

BLAME hurled urged by falsification
Rebounds in the face of accusation.

126

WITH the slightest tilt
A cupful may be spilt.

127

WHEN completely off your guard
An error may hit you hard.

128

A PRICK from a tiny pin
Pass over not with a grin.

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129

A DEEP-ROOTED design
Is a plot to undermine.

130

To listen to a tale of woe
To a kind heart's grievous blow.

131

REMARK that's hollow
Is useless to swallow.

132

A FALSE guide
Always chide.

133

AN angry tone
Is better left alone.

134

HE who begins to rob and steal
Must under God's punishment reel.

135

FOR nothing do not bewail
What is of no avail.

136

AN act of ingratitude
Denounce with promptitude.

137

WHAT you should not preach
You should not repeat.

138

ALWAYS endeavour so long as you
can
To learn a lesson from a gentleman.

139

LIFE'S wastage do not knowingly flout,
When done with the candle blow it
out.

140

Do not for the loss of earthly pleasure
care,
To receive gift of God's munificence
prepare.

141

IMPERFECTION moulds into perfection.

142

REGRET is mind's asset.

143

BLASPHEMY leaves a bad taste in the
mouth.

144

A HEROIC effort oft averts a disaster.

145

OUTSPOKENNESS signifies honesty of intention.

146

A GESTURE is a sign of a certain possibility.

147

UNDUE preponderance is overbearing.

148

GREATNESS of mind leads to greater distinction.

149

ADMISSION of guilt is greater than concealment of truth.

150

THROUGH sorrow lies the road to happiness.

151

VULGARITY always deserves a crushing blow.

152

A SETTLED fact is more valuable than a frivolous document.

153

ONCE deceived should be a lesson conceived.

154

WHAT is deferred may never be.

155

ONE more added to many an act of charity is a generous contribution.

156

FORBIDDEN interference is odious.

157

WITH refinement's excellence riches
cannot compare.

158

To tamper with life is to gamble for
nothing.

159

INTELLIGENCE is the most powerful
force of creation.

160

A GLIMMER is better than a flicker.

161

TRUE impression ends suspicion.

162

ENLIGHTENMENT checks the spread of ignorance.

163

SAGACITY is the best form of intellectuality.

164

AN insolent remark is like a dog's bark.

165

BETWEEN reality and appearance there is a gulf of difference.

166

FALSE appearance oft defies detection.

167

EVERY information needs not confirmation.

168

A PIE for a pice is a fair exchange.

169

OTHERS are they who in thoughts
others remain.

170

A STEP hastily taken may create a
dangerous situation.

171

No sacrifice is too much for the sake
of reputation.

172

INTEMPERANCE is a slave of abomina-
tion.

173

STRONGLY contest your right of
contention.

174

PRETENSION is contemptible.

175

A HEARTY laugh signifies good humour.

176

A SCAR of a wound caused by affliction
cannot be easily effaced.

177

AN inquisitive mind wants too much
to find.

178

RIGHTLY punished is rightly served

179

To be on the defensive is better than
to be aggressive.

180

A STORM of dust obscures a shelter's
detection.

181

WHEN sorely pressed, rise to the
occasion.

182

A GOOD beginning means a good
ending.

183

To defile is to become vile.

184

WHEN horns are lowered the gauntlet
is thrown.

185

A SIP of water is better than a cup of
wine.

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186

A PINCH of snuff goes a long way.

187

WHOLE is better than a divided half.

188

A TILE on the roof is worth two on the ground.

189

RECKLESSNESS is the worst part of discretion.

190

A HERMIT'S lair is better than a king's throne.

191

JEALOUSY gives birth to contempt.

192

A STROKE of pen saves ten.

193

A COMPROMISE is better than a quarrel.

194

A GOOD turn brings a good return.

195

A PARTICLE of dust is better than a grain of nonsense.

196

CARE naught, molest not.

197

IMPURITY is worse than soiled linen.

198

PROFLIGACY is a mark of ill repute.

199

A BIT of thread is better than nothing
instead.

200

PRAISE after appraise.

201

PLAIN talk cannot balk.

202

THINK before you throw.

203

KEEP within bounds.

204

TEMPT not, fear not.

205

IDLENESS is childishness.

206

A JOKE is not a joke when it goes too far.

207

BEFORE sailing, see which way the wind is blowing.

208

WHEN in the dark keep double watch.

209

A DOG that barks dares not bite.

210

Do not pause to think when the road is clear.

211

It is safer to be up a tree than to grope in the dark.

212

A DOG is a better companion than a drunkard.

213

WHEN you falter in your stride, step aside.

214

EVERY echo of distant sound is not pleasant to hear.

215

IF you cannot satisfy yourself, you cannot satisfy others.

216

LAY down arms when provocation is not nigh.

217

IF you would be happy, render useful service.

218

WHAT is not out of the pot may still be in the making.

219

Do not leave to others to do what they would not like to do.

220

BE not contented with first-hand information.

221

IT is better to suffer humiliation than to create a life-long feud.

222

BE upright in all your dealings, so that of confidence you may not be deprived.

223

A CONTEST, however insignificant it may be, is never considered won until it is fought out.

224

IT is easy to commit a blunder but difficult to rectify.

225

BELIEVE not all you see unless it proves its identity.

226

To be over avaricious to foster a tendency to gain by unchivalrous acquisition is to steadily succumb to the evil forces of instigation.

227

WHEN the mind stoops to prostration it testifies to devotion's call in recognition of the inestimable, colossal greatness of the CREATOR.

228

FONDNESS is a sensitive spiritual form of binding mutual attachment, a sentiment of love that survives perpetually in its regeneration in eternity.

229

WHEN avowed devoutness violation
fears, when coercion threatens the
sanctity of a religious faith, it is
responsible for an unpardonable act
of desecration.

230

To flare up is to cool down, excitement
lasts not without appeasement.

231

ARTIFICIAL application wounds
beauty's pride.

232

MISFORTUNE comes to all alike, even
light is thrown in the background of
the shadow of night.

233

ARGUMENT goes for nothing when reasoning fails to make an impression.

234

JOY reigns unharmed in sorrow's surrounding as the rose flourishes in its thorny habitation.

235

A FEARFUL frown is a prelude to a gathering storm.

236

FAIR name left through ages lives engraved on the excellence of goodness: attempt cannot erase the seal of reputation.

237

WHEN you wish to strike, strike at
the root of evil.

238

WHENEVER offended, think not of
recourse to violence.

239

RETRACT your footsteps if you have
transgressed the boundary of modera-
tion.

240

HEAR not what you care not to hear.

241

GET rid of prejudice wrongly con-
ceived, dislike may turn into hate.

242

Do not be a beast when you can be a man.

243

HE who does not consider to try in vain, lives to try again.

244

IF what is not worth having, it is not worth looking at.

245

WHEN you have drunk enough from a goblet, pass it on.

246

UNWHOLESOME gratification does not spring into fruition.

247

You can teach a parrot to talk, but
you cannot make it talk.

248

'Tis useless to keep the shutter down
when the mouse is out of the trap.

249

AN impostor always lives in con-
sternation for fear of detection.

250

A SLANDERER'S language is odious.

251

A KNAVE is worse than a venomous
serpent.

252

AN excuse is a demonstration of an
evasive reply.

253

Do not pretend to be what you cannot be.

254

ATTENTION to repayment of obligation through inadvertence omitted, is reminded of the opportunities lost when the scroll of earthly doings is unfurled.

255

INDIFFERENCE to loss loses not what is lost. Its revival is in life's transformation assured.

256

WHEN heart-burning is feared, avoid the heat of controversy.

257

A PARASITE is worse than a beast of prey.

258

A BIRD perched upon a dried-up tree cannot be as happy as happy can be.

259

THE past is often compensated for what the future brings.

260

UNTIMELY decision under the impulse of impatience has often been known to lead to far-reaching injurious consequences, avoidable only by timely precaution.

261

A MISTAKE can be rectified in the nick of time.

262

A GOOD deed done leaves behind an imperishable impression changing time cannot obliterate.

263

TIME only acts as a healing balm applicable to a wounded heart.

264

COMPARE not the past with the present or the future, for it brings to the surface of the passing current of recollection what is trying to the endurance of a wounded mind to gaze upon.

265

AGGRANDISEMENT in its pride should forget not God's benevolence to invoke, for idealism of the highest conceivable conception accrues from the incontestable predominance of the existence of that unseen omnipotent Protector of peerless magnanimity.

266

IN the exit from this life some are preceded by others as the fallen dried-up leaves of a tree from the sound created of being dragged along by the loitering breeze are by their fellow-mates heard their last farewell to convey, greeted again when the future shall their lamentable severance end.

267

LIKE shifting sand,
Time does not stand.

268

DEEP-ROOTED despair relaxes its hold
when fortune smiles on the un-
fortunate.

269

FORLORN hope's meagre rays may
live to climb steadily to the height
of success.

270

A BEGGAR'S lot may some day prosper-
ous become.

271

WE shall not be taken unawares when
fortune comes within vision.

272

A STROKE of luck may turn the scale.

273

REMOVE not reliance in anticipation,
to-morrow may bring what to-day
does not disclose.

274

WHAT you contemplate is not sure
to happen.

275

HOPE against hope may revive dream's
realisation.

276

A LOSING game may win fame.

277

THROUGH a sea of sorrow
Joy may come to-morrow.

278

WHEN the hour has struck,
It may change your luck.

279

IF you would possess a tender heart
turn to the study of forgiveness.

280

To rescue a creature in need
Is a righteous act indeed.

281

A HELPING hand is worth its weight in
gold.

282

SPURN not the advice of one though
humbler than yourself.

283

To cultivate a feeling of brotherhood is to increase virtues of noble-mindedness.

284

It is courageous to face danger for true friendship's sake, it is cowardice to withdraw.

285

To cast away a friendly warning is a golden opportunity lost.

286

REPAYMENT of obligation is worthy of a faithful companion.

287

WHEN friendship is betrayed, the connecting link is broken.

288

SERVICE at the critical moment rendered is more precious than a gem.

289

ABUSE hurled at innocence causes a stinging sensation.

290

BE considerate to those from whom you yourself would expect consideration.

291

BE kind, kindness will be kind to you.

292

A HARSH word for gratitude returned is a poor recompense.

293

INJURY received for insult offered is of self-creation.

294

To ruin oneself is a sin, to ruin others is more.

295

A ROGUE can be turned into a saint, if his soul becomes repentant.

296

A DISHONOURABLE gain is a characteristic stain.

297

A SCOUNDREL lives to pay the price of his infamy.

298

It is wrong to belittle the status of an enemy, however humble he may be.

299

An evil look is always present in a culprit's eye.

300

An enemy's accuse is better than a friend's abuse.

301

Show courage before a fearless enemy.

302

A ROGUE in the garb of a mendicant may be taken to be a saintly person.

303

BACKBITERS always bite the dust.

304

DON'T keep a beaten serpent alive.

305

A FLATTERER'S device is a thing to despise.

306

A TRAITOR'S expression betrays his intention.

307

SPEAK not a secret aloud, its echo may reach your enemy's ear.

308

A FIEND is worse than a foe.

309

DON'T mistake a hypocrite for a fool.

310

AN act of hospitality
Changes an enemy's mentality.

311

TO poison an innocent mind
Seeks God's curse to find.

312

WHEN man stoops to greed,
He acts against his creed.

313

INSTIGATION to kill
Is the devil's will.

314

To unfurl a secret plan
Cannot be the work of a gentleman.

315

WITH a reprobate
Never expostulate.

316

WHILE reckoning with a fool
Treat him with ridicule.

317

TREACHERY not open to inspection
May live in evil mind's seclusion.

318

CHANGE in devil's mind
Would be a happy find.

319

NOT till you train a hound
Can he become safe and sound.

320

BEFORE mosquito bites,
Kill it outright.

321

WHEN you have got the scent,
Do not ever relent.

322

INHERENT qualities reveal the true
state of individualism.

323

PERSISTENCY to overcome hopelessness
should induce us not to give up what
for the time being cannot be endured.

324

SUBMISSION to deception results in reactionary depression.

325

THE detention of depraved habit gradually brings about deterioration of human faculties.

326

A DECISION formed on presumise is likely to turn into mistaken notion.

327

To remain undaunted under trying circumstances is refinement personified.

328

UNWHOLESOME utterances come from diseased thoughts of dyspeptic mind.

329

OPPRESSION will end in annihilation when wickedness ceases to exist.

330

EVEN when in extreme danger keep tenaciously to the sceptre of truthfulness.

331

TRY not to possess knowledge of what is beyond conception.

332

PERSUASION rightly exercised helps to remove a false impression.

333

THROUGH life's endurance lesson in patience is learnt.

334

CURB your passion rather than allow
yourself to become a slave to it.

335

WHEN sense of justice disappears,
conscience becomes a prickly thorn.

336

CHECK the inclination to offend, anger
seeks revenge.

337

To think eyes can evil hide is a
mistake, though mind is sleeping
conscience is awake.

338

IN a mind where sincerity reigns,
dishonesty cannot seek admission.

339

KEEP within what you should not be without.

340

THE desire to do good produces its reward hurrying along to show itself with the coming of events.

341

I READILY would transfèr the shock of grief, if it were possible to get rid of the pain caused by it.

342

CULTIVATE quality of genuineness, so stainlessly pure.

343

CORRUPTION added to intemperance never brings repentance.

344

GIVE up undue expectation, flowers
bloom not out of season.

345

WHEN the heart grows fond, regard
is intermingled with affection.

346

WHEN in doubt, get rid of hesitation.

347

EVEN in extreme danger, keep up firm
resolution.

348

To solve or not to solve must be a
difficult proposition.

349

KEEP up your spirits, success lies in
confidence.

350

WHEN you come to the end of
tolerance,
Take to advice rather than violence.

351

A LOVER of 'truth goes through
disappointment with a firm conviction
that never falters.

352

A STOUT heart with patience bears a
load of sorrow.

353

SOME are born with a compassionate heart, others try to become compassionate, in either case we must be prepared for self-sacrifice, so that others may be benefited by our action.

354

A PERTURBED mind experiences a feeling of some relief when a flash of reflection of coming deliverance from affliction crosses its path.

355

PROSPECT is the creation of predestination.

356

WHEN the devil's influence is gone,
retribution follows.

357

DON'T harbour a sentiment not worth
entertaining.

358

RECOURSE to penance in a fit of
despondency is forbidden, if self-
inflicted punishment leads to the
danger of the sacrifice of life.

359

ENDOWED unimpeachable instinct the
worth of crown cannot buy.

360

WHAT is not understood may not be
well put.

361

To know what difference is from
comparison inference is drawn.

362

INTRIGUE thrust between harmonious
connection destroys the knot of
affinity.

363

EVEN in calamity, know what's implied
by the rise and fall of fortune's
tide.

364

RECOVERY of the mind from depth of
desolation depends upon awakening
memories' consolation.

365

AFTER repeated failures, work with
redoubled energy.

366

FEARLESSLY keep erect on the summit
of conviction as a tree stands firm on a
steep incline.

367

WHAT is not in comprehension
May appear before recognition.

368

THOUGH toiled with might and main,
If you fail, try again.

369

GIVE up not in despair,
What is not late to repair.

370

GREATER ignorance, more arrogance.

371

To restrain a threat in time
Is test of discretion sublime.

372

To reveal the state of truism,
Remove the mantle of suspicion.

373

FAITHLESSNESS is baselessness,
Manliness is heavenliness.

374

WHEN in a fix
Renewed resolve affix.

375

To frankness detestable is
To conceal disgust in disguise.

376

To expose another's weakness
Is to drill a hole in your conscience.

377

THOUGH you may be inclined to
intend,
Give up the habit to offend.

378

To disallow a chance to waste,
Better to ponder when in haste.

379

WHEN led astray
For deliverance pray.

380

A LIE you cannot hide
If in honesty you abide.

381

SUPERIOR knowledge
All but fools acknowledge.

382

A THORN cannot win renown
When in your way, trample it down.

383

PERPLEX not thyself, have a care,
Result of retribution is not rare.

384

SOUL's passionate sensation
Increases heart's fascination.

385

To remove the stain of sin
Repentance must come from within.

386

IF you can forbear
Try never to swear.

387

THOUGHT'S speed to reach on high,
Faster than a bird can fly.

388

WHAT is caused by pain
You cannot disdain.

389

EXCESSIVE grief is a token,
Door to happiness is open.

390

If you would prevent slipping,
Keep a firm footing.

391

WHEN the mind is set
It cannot be upset.

392

WHEN a bird takes fright
It takes to flight.

393

THE crowing of a cock signifies the
morning call for prayer.

394

BELIEVE not what is always exposed
to gaze.

Be not deceived by appearance, as
reality is sometimes represented
cunningly by imitation.

395

A VILLAIN who dares act in defiance of God's authority must be left to be led hereafter by the hand of fiendishness through the barren tractless desert to an unknown destination as the result of his past ungodly conduct's installation.

396

HE who lives in expectancy of God's mercifulness thrives under the undiminishing refulgence of His bountiness.

397

STRUGGLING felicitation embedded in the recesses of a despairing heart waits to be revived by the refreshing

effect of soul's coming emancipation like the petals of tender buds in the veil of darkness enwrapped thirsting for the spreading moonbeam's soothing caresses.

398

HUMAN nature from time to time supplies fuel to the flame of anguish within it burning until for ever extinguished by the breath of departing soul upwards soaring with the torch of fresh enlightenment.

399

LEARN to preserve the worth of the originality of God's creation as the soul ever maintains the intrinsic value of its natural condition.

400

WHEN plunged in deep meditation be not carried away by the flow of impatience, for it results in inspiration—a form of supernatural message transmitted through a sacred channel from the higher region.

401

As a streamlet pursues its toilsome journey in quest of its destination, so experience glides along the current of attraction by which it is influenced to meet with what awaits it ahead.

402

INFAMY, hard it may strive, cannot set fire to the solid shelter of rectitude by its devastating flame of demolition, for the righteous live under

the impregnable shade of God's protection that defies the scorching rays of wickedness to reach it through penetration.

403

Do not seek to build on thought's high altitude of baseless foundation. The mind refuses to accept a picture drawn by the hand of imagination when conjecture fails to prove its substantialism.

404

HAPPY are they who have only their connection with earthly existence to lose in exchange for a happier life to live hereafter.

405

CONSIDER not your faculties of concentration lost, pause at every step to meditate the worth of divine instruction. The foundation of religious thoughts is consolidated by the development of the influence of spiritual mind.

406

DEATH never ends the life of soul, it quits one abode for the sake of the other to take up the much coveted position in eternity in order to proceed on its onward journey which leads to the inevitable attainment of its objective.

407

SINCERITY is a deep-rooted quality only to be found in one who possesses a clear conscience which takes its origin for the birth of the soul's propensity. It never wavers under the weight of contemptible temptation's contamination.

408

WHEN caught by affliction do not be perturbed nor become desperate. Consider not yourself in the clutches of helplessness, for Heaven's compensation is on its way to you under the direction of God's unparalleled mercifulness.

409

WHEN you are in a bad mood, don't let thoughts and words give impetus to annoyance by encouraging it to rise to a height from which it cannot quickly come down. Let it be treated by the aid of forbearance and not persistence. Do not think what seems to be cannot be averted, it is to be resisted.

410

EVERYTHING we feel may be divine save anger. It humiliates and is a curse to our creation. Exercise control and your enemy from within that leads you on to it will be subdued and crushed under the weight of prudence.

411

IF a thing is worthwhile doing it is worth doing well. But if the inclination to take up the performance of a task under the impulse of the moment should restrain you, complete resignation to the call of time is a matter of necessity.

412

HOWEVER much you may tune the harp of life, the dying strain of its song cannot be stayed. It leaves behind an imperishable impression which serves as a mark of consolation during the period of separation till the day of eternal reunion.

413

BE good to others, so that others may be good to you. Exchange of sentiments

is ever welcome. It consolidates the foundation on which genuineness stands unalterable, unshakable.

414 .

BLESSED are they who are blest for their acts of charity. Man does not live for himself alone, but for the benefit of others as well, through the medium of which happiness comes to him—the ultimate salvation of the soul.

415

CONSIDER it to be for our ultimate good what through natural consequences happens. Like the ever-swelling waters of a troubled river speeding on unchecked, that in restlessness overflow its banks, so

tears pour forth brimful to the eyes, overlapping each other in their maddened rush, driven on by the feelings of uncontrollable emotion beyond the boundary of restraint.

416

IF you do not wish to be affected by the ways of the world, if you do not care to be governed by joy or sorrow, by pain or comfort, by poverty or riches, by satisfaction or discontent, by love or hate, renounce the world.

417

WHETHER in adversity or in prosperity, life's most faithful, inseparable, sacred companion is to be found in rest; for it is nature's prescribed nourishment of solitary pacification.

Press Opinions.

From the "Forward," dated 8th October, 1934.

A MIND'S REPRODUCTION—By Sir Wasif Ali Meerza, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, K.C.S.I., K.C.V.O. Printed by Newman & Co., Limited, 21, Meredith St., Calcutta.

The Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad has demonstrated creditably that even in the splendour and wealth one may as well cultivate his inner thoughts and may compile them in a book for the benefit of others. The present book contains four hundred and seventeen short beautiful and highly philosophical treatises. These treatises are so very interesting that one cannot resist his temptation to turn the pages till he finishes the book. The prefatory words of the author, and also many other reflections contained in the book, go to show that the author has a deep and probably unaccountable sorrow which he carried althrough. But the author bravely faced them all and says "Being slowly consumed by the heat of that smouldering fire anguish had kindled within my throbbing breast, I have waited long enough in suspense for a glimpse of the coming sunshine of better days hidden shrouded in the

folds of the screen of voluminous mist. I thank God, that through His mercy, my powers of determination have enabled me undaunted to resist the harsh influence of distressing moments."

As to the style of the author we may add his is an inimitable one. We confidently hope the reading public of Bengal will accord the book a welcome reception. The get-up of the book is excellent.

*From the "Amrita Bazar Patrika,"
dated 28th October, 1934.*

LOFTY THOUGHTS.

A MIND'S REPRODUCTION—By Sir Wasif Ali Meerza, Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad. With a Foreword by Sj. Ramananda Chatterjee, Editor, "Modern Review" and "Prabasi." Silk Bound. Pp. 96.

We welcome with joy this book containing thoughts and reflexions from the pen of His Highness Amir-ul-Omra Sir Wasif Ali Meerza, the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad. It appears from a perusal of the volume that the author possesses a catholic mind singularly free from religious conceits and predilections. Some of these 417 short reflexions, both rhymed and

unrhymed, show that the author has experienced life's joys and sorrows, its trials and tribulations, but it is faith and optimism that have all along invested his journey through life with a radiance all their own, so that at last he visualises a destination "where signs of danger slowly disappear like thorns strewn on the bank melting away under the charm of the sweet fragrance of richly scented flower that live and thrive preserved by heavenly care."

Some of the author's thoughts reveal an undertone of deep philosophical outlook upon human life and its problems, and his absorbing interest in the higher problems that engage the mind of man. With the glow and passion of an ardent poetical temper he paints and pieces together in the book a series of touching pictures of deep human emotions and feelings that are stirred by the different situations in which man finds himself in this mundane world. Experience has taught the author that "material world knows not the worth of life's complete happiness," that "intelligence is the most powerful force of creation" and that "indomitable courage and persistent toleration shown by one whose consciousness is undisputed, must have the satisfaction, though perplexed for the

time being, of knowing that he will one day through his forbearance and reliance on God overcome completely all obstacles and impediments of adverse circumstances." These and many other thoughts contained in the book demonstrate the author's highly cultured mind, noble idealism, religious vitality, and directness and simplicity of expression. Both the author's introductory remarks and the foreword by Mr. R. Chatterjee provide edifying reading.

We do not know if the book is meant for sale, but it is a book which the members of every community in India will read with profit.

*From the "Star of India,"
dated 2nd August, 1935.*

"A MIND'S REPRODUCTION"

BOOK OF WISE MAXIMS

(Contributed.)

Nobility of mind and culture generally do not go hand in hand with nobility of blood, but there are famous exceptions, Dr. Rabindranath Tagore for instance. It is, therefore, with great admiration for the author that we have read and re-read a book of wise maxims, wisely put together, by a personage whose aristocracy of

thought and diction can only be compared with his aristocracy of birth and breeding. The book we refer to is "A Mind's Reproduction." It is a book full of gems of thought expressed with a diction in a class of its own. The following few maxims from the book speak of their merit for themselves.

"Fate keeps to the rule of regulated time."

"Do not bewildered stand,
Heaven's protection is at hand."

"If you would God's help invite
Keep always to the right."

"Through sorrow's night of darkest hue
comes

The light of joy's awakening morn."

"A sigh is a heart's cry."

"To strive the past to revive again
Is to bring back the dead to life again."

"Like a cobweb's string
Life is a subtle thing."

"In the dead of night
Fortune may reflect light."

"When duty calls
Care not what befalls."

"Might may often supersede right,
Long it cannot remain upright."

"Regret is mind's asset."

"With refinement's excellence riches cannot
compare."

"Hope against hope may revive dream's
realisation."

"Through a sea of sorrow
Joy may come to-morrow."

"Don't keep a beaten serpent alive."

"When man stoops to greed
He acts against his creed."

"Give up undue expectation, flowers bloom
not out of season."

"Though toiled with might and main,
If you fail, try again."

"Greater ignorance, more arrogance."

"Superior knowledge
All but fools acknowledge."

"Excessive grief is a token,
Door to happiness is open."

In this book the foremost living scion of Bengal's Muslim aristocracy has shown how to strive to conquer the forces of pessimism by the forces of optimism for the ultimate solace and salvation of the human soul. A worthy scion

of a worthy lineage has shown in his worthy book how "with a stout heart pulsating with feverish excitement he stood in the midst of a sweeping hurricane in the stormy days of misfortune that was furiously raging with that undaunted intensity which would have made the very ground slip away from under his feet had not the solid foundation of his sacred belief in coming deliverance firmly supported him." The author in the penultimate maxim of his book says, "If you do not wish to be affected by the ways of the world, if you do not care to be governed by joy or sorrow, by pain or comfort, by poverty or riches, by satisfaction or discontent, by love or hate, renounce the world."

We do not know how many people know it, but on our part we frankly admit that we had no idea before we had read the book referred to that the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, Amirul-Omra Sir Saiyid Wasif Ali Meerza, K.C.V.O., K.C.S.I., is not only by virtue of his birth a highly honoured Muslim in Bengal, but also that he has made himself by dint of his arduous labour and deep devotion to learning a highly cultured and erudite person amongst us. The Nawab Bahadur by his own excellent

example has proved that "intelligence is the most powerful force of creation." The book, full as it is of wise maxims, has gained greater worth, as it is from the pen of a personage who has gained knowledge and worldly wisdom through bitter experience of life lived to its full and long hours of serious study and still longer hours of deep reflection.

The first book from his pen is a clear promise of what more the Nawab Bahadur is capable of leaving behind him for the emulation of others to follow. Notwithstanding the fact that "uneasy lies the head that wears a crown," being endowed with a mind and disposition as is evident from his maxims of life and living in his "Mind's Reproduction," we are confident that the Nawab will devote his leisure hours to prove conclusively that "greatness of mind leads to greater distinction." "Invisible powerful forces are ever working their machinations on mankind, but the indomitable courage and persistent toleration shown by one whose conscientiousness is undisputed, must have the satisfaction, though perplexed for the time being, of knowing that he will one day through his forbearance and reliance in God overcome completely all the obstacles and impediments of adverse circumstances." Such is his conviction. We wish him Godspeed.

